

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information

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1. On 5 October 1951, 200 additional troops were in the Panzer Kaserne, Bad Freienwalde (N 53/V 28), who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including a few with tank and artillery insignia. Vehicular traffic at the installation was intensified on and after 2 October. No heavy weapons returned to the installation. Trucks were seen hauling potatoes and coal to the billeting area. They included [REDACTED] 25X1C
2. Three flatcars carrying three trucks, including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] passed through the Oranienburg (N 53/Z 67) freight yard, coupled to a freight train. A troop train of 10 boxcars and 40 gondola cars, without an engine, was in the Oranienburg railroad station on 13 October. The train carried 8 AT guns of about 100-mm, 1 field kitchen, an undetermined number of prime movers, trucks and troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. (2) 25X1C
3. An artillery unit with 18 x 152-mm field howitzers of model 125 and 36 vehicles, including [REDACTED] moved into Camp Lieberose (N 52/A 49) on 12 October. The individual departure of advance parties on vehicles was observed on the same day. (3) 25X1A
4. Six JS-3 tanks were detrained at the Neuruppin (N 53/Z 49) railroad station at 8 a.m. and 5 JS-3 tanks at 3:40 p.m. on 12 October. The tanks, which had a new coat of green paint and were [REDACTED] went to the Panzer Kaserne. A train which was observed at the Neuruppin railroad station at 1:45 p.m. on 13 October carried 21 trucks: trucks [REDACTED] 25X1C
to 50-mm AT guns; 4 armored reconnaissance cars; 2 half-track vehicles; and 2 armored personnel carriers coupled to 120-mm mortars. Twenty of the 21 trucks were [REDACTED] 25X1C

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After a short stop, the train proceeded toward Neustadt on the Dosse River. (C-2) (4) An acquaintance of source stated that six trains, each of 40 to 50 cars with tanks and artillery pieces, passed through Neuruppin toward Neustadt during the night of 13 October. Seventeen freshly painted, tanks were entrained at the Altruppin railroad station and dispatched toward Neustadt on 15 October. (5) 25X1C

5. A troop train observed at the Neuruppin railroad station between 1 and 2 p.m. on 13 October carried about 800 troops with about 50 trucks, 20 x 76.2-mm guns, about 20 x 57-mm AT guns and 6 half-track armored personnel carriers. All of the trucks were marked with yellow artillery insignia. 25X1C

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The train proceeded toward Neustadt on the Dosse River. (C-2) (4) Another troop train driving in the same direction at 6:15 p.m. carried: about 160 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia; 17 JS-3 tanks. 25X1C

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preceded by a white circle containing the letters EB; 3 wrecking tanks; 1 armored reconnaissance car; and trucks (6) Beginning at 6 p.m., about 40 soldiers with tank insignia, 16 JS-1 tanks with 25X1C

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and 3 JS-3 tanks were entrained. (7) Eight trucks; 14 T-34/35 tanks, including with a white circle containing an upright rhomb behind and 6 boxcarloads of troops were detrained at the Kremmen railroad station on 13 October. (4) 25X1C

6. A train which passed through the Stendal (N 53/Y 85) railroad station and proceeded westward on 17 October carried 2 trucks and about 35 T-34/35 tanks, including 25X1C

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25X1C

From 50 to 60 motor vehicles, occupied by only the drivers passed through Doebbelin toward Stendal on 16 October. They included 25X1C

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and others with (8) 25X1C 25X1C

7. A convoy of 50 to 60 vehicles with each carrying 5 to 7 men, left the barracks installation in Kuestrin (O 53/V 66) toward Manschnow at about noon on 17 October. The vehicles towed 16 x 76.2-mm AA guns, 4 searchlights and 4 field kitchens. The convoy returned to Kuestrin at about 5 p.m. (9) Boxes consigned to Units arrived at the Kietz railroad station from Frankfurt/Oder. (10) 25X1C 25X1C

8. Two trains were observed at the Heiligengrabe (N 54/U 01) railroad station on 16 October. They had apparently be loaded there and included a total of: 17 boxcars with troops and billeting equipment;

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15 tanks, including [redacted] each 25X1C
 with 5 bogie wheels per side; 4 SP guns of about 85-mm;
 2 SU-100 SP guns [redacted] 2 armored reconnaissance cars;
 several half-track vehicles and field kitchens; 2 sidecar
 motorcycles; 1 flatcar with pontoons; 5 flatcars with tools; 25X1C
 and 1 flatcar with logs. (11) 25X1C

9. Trucks with [redacted] and 1 house trailer, which 25X1C
 came from the direction of the Schuetzen Kaserne, were entrained
 at the Eberswalde (N 53/V 08) railroad station on 14 October and
 dispatched northward. (12) Four 85-mm AA guns were emplaced on
 the south branch of the Eberswalde-Finow railroad line, and six
 37-mm AA guns at the Westend School in Eberswalde. Two trucks of
 the [redacted] and 5 trucks of the [redacted] were
 identified in front of the school. (13) 25X1C

10. Preparations for the evacuation of the Schweinrich (N 54/U 22)
 troop training grounds began on 10 October. Convoys of motor
 vehicles were repeatedly seen driving toward the Wittstock freight
 yard until nightfall. Convoys of trucks with AA guns, including
 trucks [redacted] and convoys of trucks with AA 25X1C
 guns, including truck [redacted] were observed at about 7 p.m.
 on 17 October. Officers and enlisted personnel on additional 25X1C
 convoys wore caps which were marked with white stripes. Two
 vehicles of these convoys were [redacted] C
 All of the vehicles drove with dimmed lights. Local residents
 said that tanks were entrained in Dranse. Troops blocked the main
 and secondary roads in the Schweinrich-Fritzwalk area to civilian
 traffic on 17 and 18 October. (11)

11. An undetermined number of troops were detrained at the Rathenow-
 Nord (N 53/Z 15) railroad station and moved to the three Wald
 Kasernen between 16 and 18 October. They included troops with 25X1C
 about 50 artillery pieces who moved into Wald Kaserne I; and
 troops with trucks [redacted] (14) 25X1C

12. Light JS-2 tanks were detrained in Frankfurt/Oder at 2 p.m. on
 13 October; 5 JS-2 tanks, including [redacted] 25X1C
 SP guns [redacted] on T-34 chassis on 18 October. 25X1A

Individual vehicles carrying baggage and billeting equipment
 returned to Frankfurt/Oder from the direction of Muellrose on
 15 October. Truck [redacted] with soldiers wearing red-bordered 25X1C
 black epaulets entered the Buelow Kaserne on 15 October; and trucks

[redacted] entered the Horn Kaserne, and
 truck [redacted] entered the Alte Infanterie Kaserne on 17 October. (15)
 Twenty-seven trucks with [redacted] including

[redacted] and towing 1 searchlight
 and 4 x 37-mm AA guns arrived at the Alte Artillerie Kaserne from
 the direction of Muellrose at about 5 p.m. on 17 October. (9) Four
 JS-2 tanks and 2 SP guns on T-34 chassis entered the Ziethen Kaserne.
 About 250 troops from the Bichhorn Kaserne received infantry
 training at the Markendorf drill ground on 15 October. Source saw
 250 more troops leaving the installation for the railroad station
 on 18 October. (15)

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13. The low wooden buildings near the brick yard at Velten (N 53/Z 66) were not occupied by troops on 11 October. They were being reconditioned by German craftsmen. Local residents said that no troops had been quartered there for a long time. (16)

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Comments.

- (1) The newly arrived personnel were probably advance parties of units permanently assigned to the installation. The information is indicative of an early return of troops. The vehicles observed primarily belong to headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army and to the 6th Gds Mecz Div.
- (2) The three trucks belong to a headquarters unit of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. The information fails to specify whether the train, which probably carried a component of the unidentified AT artillery brigade of the Second Gds Mecz Army, had arrived at the station or was about to depart.
- (3) The artillery unit, probably the howitzer artillery regiment of the 7th Gds Mecz Div, is believed to be equipped with 122-mm howitzers. Regarding the arrival of advance parties at Frankfurt/Oder, see [REDACTED] 25X1A
- (4) The two sources of paragraphs 4 and 5 reporting troop trains on 13 October probably referred to the same train with troops of the 1st Mecz Div, which was also reported by another source. See [REDACTED] The identity of the unit unloaded in Krommen on 13 October 1951 as reported in the last sentence of paragraph 5 cannot be established. The tank [REDACTED] may be indicative of the 1st Mecz Div. 25X1C
- (5) Same source also reported that 14 newly painted JS tanks were detrained on 19 September 1951. The arrival of newly painted tanks on 12 October and the departure of tanks of the same type on 15 October cannot be accounted for.
- (6) The train carried a tank component of the 12th Gds Tank Div. It is doubted that it should have turret [REDACTED] 25X1C
- 25X1C [REDACTED] The tactical symbol is reported for the first time. 25X1C
- (7) According to their [REDACTED] the tanks may belong to a component of the 12th Gds Tank Div.
- (8) A convoy of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div.
- (9) The troops from Kuestrin and Frankfurt/Oder are components of the 32d (?) AAA Div which were possibly engaged in a combined field exercise.
- (10) [REDACTED] is probably assigned to the Hq 32d (?) AAA Div. [REDACTED] 25X1C
- 25X1C [REDACTED] belongs to a component unit of this division in Kuestrin-Kietz.
- (11) The two trains probably carried components of the 18th Gds Mecz Div from the Wittstock troop training grounds to their home stations. Compare with a report of 16 October 1951 by the same source. See [REDACTED] Paragraph 10 of the present report confirms to some extent that the evacuation of the troop training grounds began about the middle of October 1951.
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- (12) Another source also reported that headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army were entrained at the same time. [REDACTED] 25X1A
- (13) The AA gun emplacements are known. The vehicles observed there belonged to the unidentified AAA Division of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.
- (14) Components of the 6th Arty Div, which probably came from Altengrabow.
- (15) The tanks and vehicles probably belonged to advance parties of the 7th Gds Mecz Div from the Lieberose troop training grounds. Compare

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with paragraph 3 of the present report. The information on the barracks installation confirms this situation and indicates an early return of the troops. The Eichhorn Kaserne probably served as a transient quarters for recruits from the U.S.S.R., because the same source reported 1,200 recruits each to have marched to the railroad station on 9 and 12 October 1951, probably for reassignment to units in the Soviet Zone of Germany. See [REDACTED]

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- (16) Another source reported an AAA component of the 31st AAA Div to have been entrained in late July 1951. The unit was probably quartered in the installation at Velton.

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